attended drilling in Alberta since 1947 has stimulated intensive search for oil in Saskatchewan; over 30 parties using every modern type of geophysical equipment were in the field during 1949.

The Goldfields, Black Lake, and Lac la Ronge areas offer possibilities as sources of uranium and other rare metals and development work in 1949 was reported to have met with encouraging results.

In 1949 the first unit of a $1,250,000 salt plant at Unity was in operation. Prior to that, production of salt in the Province was negligible.

Alberta.—The mineral output of Alberta is comprised almost entirely of fuels and structural materials (including clay products). In 1949, fuels accounted for over 93 p.c. of the total value of the Province's mineral production, which amounted to $113,728,000. This was the highest figure ever recorded, exceeding the 1939 total by $85,000,000. Alberta currently ranks fourth among the provinces in value of mineral production and in 1949 it accounted for more than 94 p.c. of the entire Canadian output of petroleum, nearly 85 p.c. of the natural gas, and over 45 p.c. of the coal.

The recent growth in the production of petroleum has been remarkable. Despite the declining output since 1942 of the Turner Valley field, which was the source of practically all the petroleum produced from 1914 to 1946, the output in the Province rose from 7,138,000 bbl. in 1946 to 20,087,000 bbl. in 1949.

The discovery in February, 1947, of the Leduc oilfield, 16 miles southwest of Edmonton, and the subsequent discoveries of Woodbend, Redwater and other areas, brought about new sources of petroleum and unquestionably very much higher levels of production will soon be reached. Output has had to be restricted until the pipe line, under construction from Edmonton to Regina and to the Head of the Lakes, is completed. This will permit great extension to the markets for Alberta oil (see p. 519).

The Redwater oilfield, discovered in 1948, is the greatest of the new discoveries to date. In 1949, 271 productive wells were brought in and the field's proven reserve was reported to be at least 360,000,000 bbl.

The natural gas reserves of the Province have grown concurrently with those of petroleum. They have now reached such a high level as to encourage the outlook for the export of that fuel. Other than fuels, salt is the leading industrial mineral produced.

British Columbia.—Metals predominate in British Columbia's mineral output which was valued at $136,386,000 in 1949—more than twice the 1939 output. The peak annual value was $148,223,614 reached in 1948, when metal prices averaged higher than in 1949. Metals contributed 81 p.c. to the provincial total value in 1949, and accounted for more than 20 p.c. of the value of Canada's entire metal output that year.

British Columbia ranked third among the Provinces in the value of its total mineral output in 1949 and was credited with all the bismuth, tin, antimony and indium produced, 83 p.c. of the lead, 79 p.c. of the cadmium, 50 p.c. of the zinc, 43 p.c. of the silver, 10 p.c. of the copper and 7 p.c. of the gold.

Most of the lead, zinc and silver recovered from British Columbia's mines comes from the great Sullivan mine of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada, Limited. The refined metals are produced at that Company's